SEP 1 6 2002

CASE: AZ 971024

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

SEP 1 9 2002

IN RE APPLICATION OF

Art Unit 1617

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

Löftroth et al.

Examiner: Webman, Edward J.

APPLICATION NO: 08/945,655

FILED: October 24, 1997

FOR: PHARMACEUTICAL COMPOSITION FOR SUSTAINED RELEASE

OF THE HMG-CoA REDUCTASE INHIBITOR FLUVASTATIN

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

Sir:

The Office Action of April 16, 2002 has a shortened statutory time set to expire on July 16, 2002. A two-month extension is hereby requested pursuant to 37 CFR §1.136(a).

Please charge Deposit Account No. 19-0134 in the name of Novartis Corporation in the amount of \$400 for payment of the extension fee. An additional copy of this paper is here enclosed. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees under 37 CFR §1.17 which may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Account No. 19-0134 in the name of Novartis Corporation.

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400.00 CH

Novartis Corporation Patent and Trademark Dept. 564 Morris Avenue Summit, NJ 07901-1027

Date: September 16, 2002

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Loeschorn Reg. No. 35590

FOR GREGORY D. FERRARO

Attorney for Applicants

Reg. No. 36,134

Phone No. (908) 522-6923

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